

IN THE SPECIFICATION

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus are provided for generating a key from a person's biometric data. The method includes capturing the person's biometric data and normalizing the captured biometrics data. The method also includes extracting invariant features from the normalized data and representing the features as a bit pattern. The bit pattern is stored in associative memory and can be retrieved therefrom. A key is generated from the retrieved bit pattern.